

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 ADP-00 GSA-02 AID-20 EB-11

NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 L-03 H-03 INT-08 PA-03 USIA-15

PRS-01 RSR-01 /210 W

----- 104108

P R 310540Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5110

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 3868

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EMIN, ECON

SUBJECT: TIN DISPOSALS

REF: (A) KUALA LUMPUR 3539; (B) STATE 171738 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. GOM HAS URGENTLY REPEATED REQUEST THAT USG POST-PONE DECISION ON INCREASING TIN DISPOSAL RATE UNTIL ITC MEETING IN ORDER TO PROVIDE TIN PRODUCERS IN ITC NECESSARY TIME TO AGREE ON DISPOSAL PROGRAM. I URGE THAT USG ACCEDE TO IT.
END SUMMARY.

1. DEP SEC GEN IN MIN PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, MOHD FAROUK, ASKED EMBOFF IN YESTERDAY AFTERNOON TO REITERATE AND REINFORCE REFTEL B AIDE MEMOIRE REQUESTING DELAY IN US TIN DECISION
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UNTIL AFTER ITC MEETING. FAROUK SAID GOM AND INDUSTRY LEADERS

BELIEVED THAT ITC SECRETARIAT WHICH HAD ORIGINATED REQUEST FOR DELAY HAD TO BE STRONGLY SUPPORTED. MALAYSIA'S LEADERSHIP ROLE IN ITC GAVE IT SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO SUPPORT THE ORGANIZATION IN A SITUATION WHICH COULD HAVE PROFOUND EFFECT ON ITS FUTURE.

2. MOREOVER, FAROUK POINTED OUT, GOM BELIEVED ADDITIONAL TIME WAS NEEDED TO SORT OUT FACTS, OPINIONS, AND PROBABILITIES IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT A REASONABLE ANSWER TO THE DISPOSAL PROBLEM. HE REFERRED TO HIS EARLIER REQUEST FOR INFO (PROVIDED IN STATE 162695) TO ENABLE THE GOM TO ASSESS OUR PROPOSAL, BUT ADDED THAT AN ASSESSMENT AND COUNTERPROPOSAL WERE NOT EASY TO COME BY. FINALLY, FAROUK SAID THAT POSTPONEMENT REQUESTED BY ITC AND GOM WOULD ENABLE LATTER TO ADVANCE IN THIS INTERNATIONAL FORUM A "REASONED" APPROACH TO THE TIN DISPOSAL QUESTION.

3. COMMENT: GOM'S REQUEST STRIKES ME AS EMINENTLY REASONABLE. ALL EVIDENCE INDICATES THEY ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY POTENTIAL IMPACT OF SUBSTANTIAL SALES WE HAVE PROPOSED. AS DEPT AWARE, GOM HAS NEVER TAKEN RIGID POSITION ON QUESTION OF ADDITIONAL DISPOSALS IN 1973. WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY IN PAST THREE YEARS TOWARDS ESTABLISHING AN ACCEPTABLE CONSULTATION PROCEDURE. GOM REQUEST FOR MORE TIME IS CLEARLY WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF THAT PROCEDURE AND I BELIEVE WE MUST ACCOMMODATE THEIR WISHES IN THE INTEREST OF CONTINUING COOPERATION ON DISPOSALS.
LYDMAN

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30 JUN 2005

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